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54/07/30 Kerr, Cullitan to Quiz Susan

Cleveland Plain Dealer

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KERR, CULLITAN TO QUIZ SUSAN

Prosecutor Undecided on Holding Technician

7-30-54
BY TODD SIMON

Two more questioning sessions are scheduled for Miss Susan Hayes, 24, "other woman" in the Marilyn Sheppard murder case today before she is freed or stowed somewhere in protective custody.

Police Chief Frank W. Story said a short quiz was still planned by his men.

"Just a few more questions," he said yesterday. "Then we are going to open the door of the cage and let the bird fly away."

"I see no reason to hold her."

Cullitan to Quiz Her

But he also said County Prosecutor Frank T. Cullitan wanted to talk with dark-eyed Susan, the girl whom Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard dated here and in California.

Said Cullitan: "I want to talk with her. After that I would not say she should be freed without qualification. That will be decided after I talk to her."

Capt. David E. Kerr of the homicide squad was to be the first to question the willowy brunette laboratory technician. Then Chief Story was to have her turned over to the prosecutor.

It was possible that Cullitan might use legal means to tie Susan and insulate her from any attempt to get her to change her story.

Tells of Intimacies

So far her story tells of intimacies with the dead woman's osteopath husband, of letters which they exchanged since they were house guests under one roof in a Los Angeles home in March and of dates and gifts from the husband.

Coroner Samuel R. Gerber inserted into his inquest record of the bludgeon murder the full hospital record of Dr. Sam, made when he was said at Bay View Hospital to be suffering a fractured vertebra after the July 4 tragedy.

That included X rays taken there. A medical doctor who examined him there summed up his injuries as "a black eye" and a complaint of soreness in the neck.

Cullitan Gets Transcript

The bulk of the inquest transcript was delivered to Prosecutor Cullitan. His duty is to study it and see if it justifies bringing witnesses before the grand jury.

Dr. Lester Hoversten, visiting osteopath who left the Sheppard home the evening of July 3 to stay in Kent, O., was checked out of the case.

Assistant County Prosecutor John J. Mahon explained:

"We did not get enough proof that he had stayed all night in Kent, so we went into that more thoroughly."

"All we had was the word of Dr. Robert Stevenson, with whom he stayed that night and with whom he went out to play golf the morning of the Fourth."

Mother Heard Him

"It turned out that Dr. Stevenson's mother heard him in the house during the night. Dr. Hoversten slept on the third floor. But that is where the Stevensons' dog usually sleeps."

"It seems that he and the dog

didn't get along together, so Dr. Hoversten had to take the dog down to the first floor during the night. And Mrs. Stevenson heard him go down and then go back up."

"They didn't go to bed until about 12:30 a. m., so that was some time afterward."

Detective Chief James E. McArthur also checked the Hoversten angle and crossed it off. He said Dr. Hoversten went to Glendale, Cal., to see his parents after he was questioned here and from there to Germany for a year's medical course.

Men Checking Caddies

McArthur said his men were talking to Marilyn's caddies and golf partners, checking out the mystery of the missing niblick. There is no such club, no No. 8 or No. 9 iron, in Marilyn Sheppard's golf bag, which stood in the kitchen of the death home.

The shape of her 25 head wounds shows a golf club could have been the death weapon. If the killer used that he would have had to take it up the stairs, premeditating, to use it for a murder tool. That would make it a first-degree case.

None of the clubs now in the golf bag show any suspicious marks, police said.

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P.D.